

22 December 2021

Katrina O'Reilly
Team Leader - Compliance
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
PO Box 5475 | Level 1 11 Farrer Place Queanbeyan NSW 2620

Dear Katrina,

I refer to the Dargues Gold Mine (DGM) State significant Development Consent (SSD) 10_0054. Schedule 3, Condition 17 of SSD 10_0054 states the proponent shall prepare and implement an Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan and the plan must include an air quality monitoring program that uses a combination of High Volume Air Samplers (HVAS) and depositional dust gauges to evaluate the performance of the project.

The approved air quality monitoring program for DGM includes high volume air sampling HVAS-1 (EPA Identification Number 77) at the location on the map labelled "R108" (Figure 1.4 -Surrounding Residences and Air Quality Monitoring Locations" of the "EPL 20095 Sampling Locations for Dargues Gold Mine" for the premises dated 17 January 2020 (EPA reference DOC20/89272-1).

I am informing you that the private land where HVAS-1 (-35.548, 149.730) was located (indicated by the yellow pin drop in the attached GoogleEarth_Image), was recently sold. The incoming owners requested that the HVAS unit be removed. We were notified on 10/12/21 by the selling agent and the HVAS unit was removed on the same day. The HVAS has not been sampling for 10 days.

The HVAS has been operating since November 2019 (approximately 2 years). The air quality predictions for the project were well below the assessment criteria and the PM10 monitoring results during 2021 operations have been well below criteria. Excluding the bushfire impacted period (end of 2019 and early 2020), where reported exceedances above 30ug/m3 occurred, the site has never recorded PM10 observations above the trigger.

Given the low observations of PM10 and the requirement to remove the HVAS unit from private land, we would like to discuss with you the feasibility of decommissioning the HVAS monitoring given the low observations. Our Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan committed to 12 months monitoring after commencement of operations, subject to an assessment of actual observations for 12 months of operations. We would welcome a conversation with you to determine the feasibility of decommissioning the unit or alternatively, moving the HVAS unit to an alternative appropriate location.

Please let me know a suitable time to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

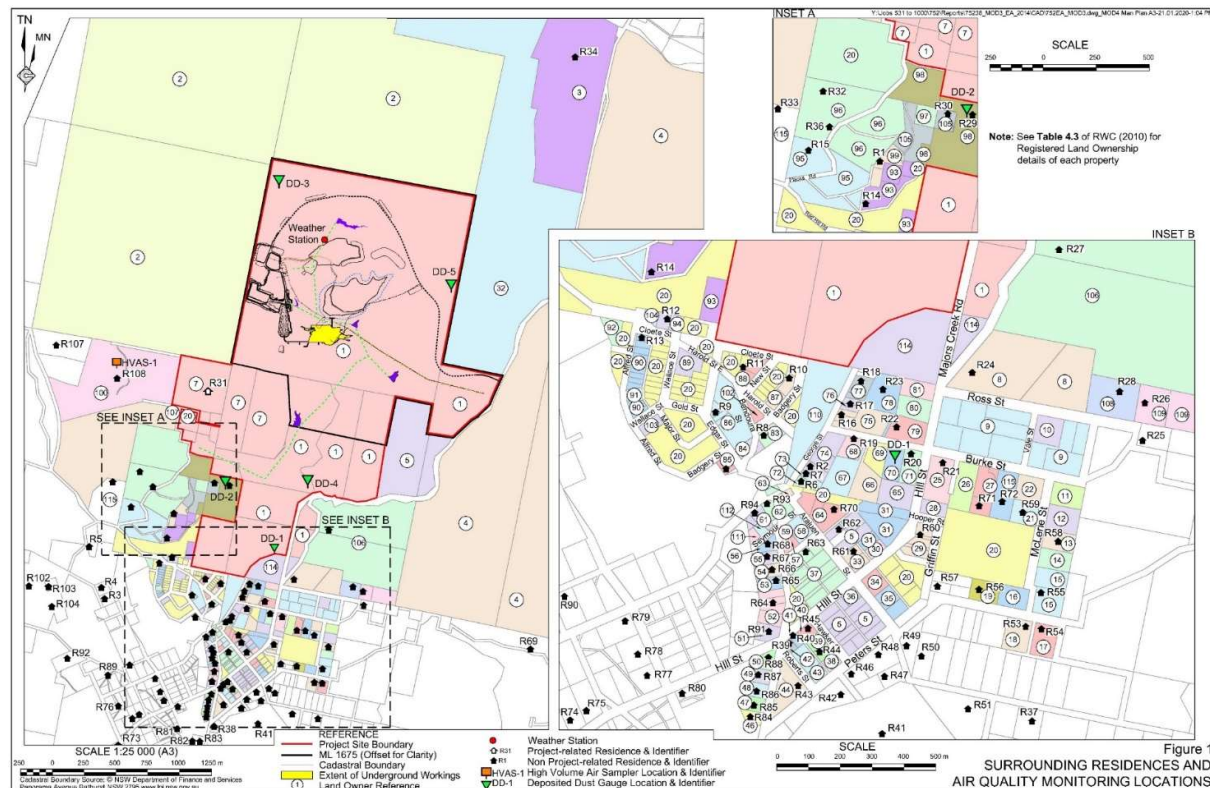


Chase Dingle
Sustainability Manager

Attachment 1



Attachment 2 - Figure 1.4 Surrounding Residences and Air Quality Monitoring Locations



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